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TOWN OF ROCKLAND

Board of Selectmen
Town Hall
242 Union Street
Rockland, Massachusetts

Chairman:

Louis U. Valanzola

Vice-Chairman:

Lawrence J. Chaffee

Selectmen:

Mary A. Parsons

Keven D. Pratt

Kelli A. O'Brien-McKinnon

Town Administrator:

Bradley A. Plante

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S OPEN SESSION held on
Monday, September 19, 2005 at 7:00 PM in the H. Bernard Monahan Memorial Room,
Town Hall, 242 Union Street Rockland, Massachusetts 02370**

**ATTENDANCE: Louis U. Valanzola, Lawrence J. Chaffee, Mary A. Parsons,
Keven D. Pratt and Kelli A. O'Brien-McKinnon**

Mr. Valanzola led everyone in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

A. MINUTES

1. Minutes – June 22, 2005 – Open Session

Motion: Mrs. Parsons to approve minutes of June 22, 2005

Second: Mr. Pratt

Vote: 5-0

B. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Transfer of Cable License – Vote

Comcast representative, Lou Russo, spoke regarding the transfer. Mr. Chaffee – Where do you stand in the transfer process now? Ms. Russo - The public hearing window has passed and we are in the decision making process. We have four or five communities left in Massachusetts that have not voted. Most everyone has voted to approve or decided to let the clock run out. Mr. Chaffee asked what the local towns have decided. Ms. Russo – Abington-approved; Kingston-approved; Marshfield-approved; Duxbury-has I believe decided to let the clock run out. October 13th is the deadline for the approval process locally. Then we move into the federal process which is the Federal Trade Commission, the Federal Communications Commission and then it goes into the bankruptcy court proceedings. Where that is a different wrinkle that we haven't had to deal with before we are not quite sure how long that will take. If all goes according to plan...possibly April of 2006. Mr. Valanzola – Any new services by Comcast will have to wait until the transfer? Ms. Russo – Correct we will have to wait until we take over the system. It will be some time yet before you see any changes and hopefully changes for the better. Mrs. Parsons – Do you have to honor the existing contract? Ms. Russo – We step into the shoes of the cable

B. UNFINISHED BUSINESS (Continued)

1. Transfer of Cable License – Vote

operator's license as previously signed. Mrs. Parsons – You won't be attempting to change anything that is in that contract? Ms. Russo – I don't have any plans to make any changes. I haven't even read the contract. Mr. Plante – Does this require two votes? Ms. Russo – Yes, it is two steps. First a vote to transfer to Time Warner, then from Time Warner to Comcast.

Motion: Mr. Chaffee to transfer from Adelphia to Time Warner

Second: Mr. Pratt

Vote: 5-0

Motion: Mr. Pratt to transfer from Time Warner to Comcast

Second: Mr. Chaffee

Vote: 5-0

Mr. Chaffee – Will you be our contact person once the transfer is complete? Ms. Russo – I will be the director and I'm not quite sure who will be manager. I will be absolutely available to you. Mr. Valanzola – I know this isn't part of the hearing but there seems to be a lot of complaints over the last couple of weeks with regard to the cable modem and customer service calling. I realize it's still under Adelphia but hopefully that is one of the things you can focus on. Ms. Russo – I appreciate you bringing that up and that is certainly something we will focus in on when we come into Town and sit down with your Cable Advisory Committee and with you folks, get the lay of the land and see what we can do to make you happy.

2. Dog Hearing (Continued)

Mr. Pratt and Mrs. O'Brien-McKinnon stepped down.

Office Whittemore reported that the yard is partially fenced in and Mr. Chandler agreed to keep the door locked from here on in. Mrs. Parsons – What do you mean by partially fenced in? Is there an area just for the dog? Officer Whittemore – Correct. One area is solidly fenced so the dog cannot get out. Mrs. Parsons – Is there anything they can do to improve that so that little kids can't let the dog out? Mrs. Whittemore – If they keep the back door locked as agreed there will be no problem but that back door has to be locked at all times. Mrs. Parsons – What about putting up a sign that says "Beware of Dog"? This way when people come onto Mr. Chandler's property without him knowing it...it might be a good thing to have a sign there. Officer Whittemore – That would be fine if he is willing to agree to that. Mr. Chandler – Anyone coming onto the property would not get near where the dog is. They would have to go around the house to the other side. Mrs. Parsons – I just want to make it really clear that the dog has to be kept behind the fence. There was an issue with a complaint about a bunch of dogs running around that neighborhood.

B. UNFINISHED BUSINESS (Continued)

2. Dog Hearing (continued)

Have you seen any other dogs? Office Whittemore – None whatsoever. Mrs. Parsons – Do you patrol that neighborhood very often? Office Whittemore – I do not patrol any areas unless I get constant complaints. Mrs. Parsons – Is there a possibility that once in a while you can take a look down there because I remember there was an issue of dogs running in like a pack. Officer Whittemore – The Chandlers were the only ones who reported that. No one else reported that. Mr. Chaffee – That dog hasn't been out since the last meeting? Officer Whittemore – Not to my knowledge. Mr. Valanzola – At this point we haven't had any other incidences. Hopefully you can keep this dog restrained. Mr. Chandler – During the last meeting the dog officer made some statements about the dog and violations and such. One statement was that we had neglected to license the dog. I would like to know what year this was in. Officer Whittemore – I do not have my records with me. Mr. Chandler – You are in error and I hope your other records are better than that. Office Whittemore – I don't even remember making that statement – that wasn't even an issue. Mr. Chandler – It must have been an issue you brought it before the people of the Town. Mr. Valanzola – I believe this was for an outstanding fine. Officer Whittemore – There was an outstanding fine for a leash law offense. It had nothing to do with a dog license. The only fine you received was the leash law offense. Mr. Valanzola – Was that paid? Officer Whittemore – Yes it was. Mr. Chandler – I would like to obtain a copy of all the violations and the dates that they occurred. Mr. Plante – You just put in a public records request. Mr. Chandler – You mean the BOS can't tell her to give that to me? Officer Whittemore – I can get it through the courts because two of the occasions we had to go to court. Mr. Chandler – We didn't go twice, that's why I want a copy of the violations because there is a lot of misinformation out there and it shouldn't be brought before the BOS like that. Mr. Valanzola – You can put in a public records request. Mr. Plante – Bring it to the Selectmen's office and we will take care of it. Officer Whittemore – If you would like to hold another hearing I can get you all that information. Mr. Valanzola – I don't think that is necessary as long as he has the dog restrained if there are any other incidences then obviously we will have to come back. Office Whittemore – I just want everyone to be aware that I do have all the records.

Motion: Mr. Chaffee to close hearing

Second: Mrs. Parsons

Vote: 3-0-2 (Mr. Pratt & Mrs. O'Brien-McKinnon abstained)

3. Joint Appointment – Planning Board

There are two applicants for this position: Mr. Newcomb and Mr. Wheeler.

Motion: Mr. Baker to open hearing

Second: Mrs. O'Brien

Vote: All

B. UNFINISHED BUSINESS (Continued)

3. Joint Appointment – Planning Board

Individually both applicants gave a personal history and reason why they should be appointed to the Planning Board. BOS and Planning Board questioned both applicants. Mr. Plante – This appointment is only until the next election, then whoever is elected will have to run for it at the next election.

Motion: Mr. Barker to appoint Mr. Newcomb

Second: Mrs. O'Brien

Vote: 2-2

Motion: Mr. Cann to appoint Mr. Wheeler

Second: Mr. Gardner

Vote: 2-2

Motion: Mr. Pratt to appoint Mr. Newcomb

Second: Mr. Chaffee

Motion: 3-2

Mr. Newcomb received 5 votes, Mr. Wheeler received 4 votes. Congratulations were extended to Mr. Newcomb. BOS thanked Mr. Wheeler for applying. Mr. Chaffee – There has been a suggestion to the Planning Board of possibility having an Associate Member. Mr. Plante – We will have to check the legality of that. It's a little bit different because they are elected. Mr. Chaffee – The concern would be that would give them their quorum for the votes that they need. Mr. Baker – I know Plymouth has Associate Members. Mr. Plante – Are they elected or appointed? Mr. Baker – They are appointed. Mr. Chaffee – That may be why. They believe the issue is the Charter. The Charter may have to be changed to do this. Mr. Plante – You may be able to change the Charter to add them as joint appointments as alternates or elected positions.

4. Pole Hearing – Mass Electric

Mr. Plante spoke to Mr. Brosnahan there has been a minor change in the location of the pole and Mr. Brosnahan no longer has any objections.

Mass Electric – What we did was we adjusted the relocation distance from approximately 25 feet to 22 feet which will put it on his property line instead of in front of his house. Mr. Valanzola – So this is closer to the actual street?

Mass Electric – Yes it is. Mr. Pratt – It appears that the existing pole will be in the middle of the sidewalk. Russell Graber (Developer) – It is going to have to be moved. I think Mr. Brosnahan agreed that it could be moved and what we suggested was to move it on the lot line. This was less of an impact on his property. Mr. Chaffee – The whole purpose of this was to make sure that the resident was happy. Mr. Plante agreed the resident was fine with this.

B. UNFINISHED BUSINESS (Continued)

4. Pole Hearing – Mass Electric

Motion: Mr. Pratt to close hearing

Second: Mrs. Parsons

Vote: 5-0

Motion: Mr. Chaffee to approve

Second: Mr. Pratt

Vote: 5-0

C. NEW BUSINESS

1. Postpone Special Town Meeting

Mr. Valanzola – Originally we had the Special Town Meeting scheduled for October 24th. We are now looking to postpone it to either November 28th or December 5th. The reasons for this are that we do not have a certified free cash number and we are waiting as LNR offered another \$1.3 million to the Town. We are waiting to see if we will actually get it this year and if the DOR will allow us to use it this year. Also whether or not the BOS would want to use that to plug the budget deficit which is now standing at about \$680,000. If we use it, it would take up about half of that. If we don't, we are going to have to make cuts. Mrs. Parson – I would make a motion to postpone indefinitely until we know what the free cash number is and what money we are getting from LNR. Only because we don't have a definite date of when we'll have the free cash and we could schedule another Special Town Meeting and still be in the same situation. Mr. Plante – I understand that. The problem is the administrative requirements under the statutes and charter and if you do that you're going to push it out. We have certain dates that you have to have the warrant open. The publishing has to be sent out within a certain number of days. So if you do that you are basically going to add a month to the other end. What I would suggest is that you set this date and you always have the option of pushing it out again. I would rather you do that so that I can hit my drop dead dates. Mrs. Parsons – I'm concerned that the dates you are recommending will not get a quorum. We are getting into late November and early December. Mr. Plante – I understand that. I did discuss this with the Finance Committee and the Moderator. The Finance Committee is recommending December 5th which puts you after the Thanksgiving Day Holiday. The danger with November 28th is that a lot of people may be away for the holiday. People should be around by December 5th. Mrs. Parsons – They will have Christmas shopping to deal with too. Mr. Plante – The other option is that if you don't get a quorum you can always postpone. You don't have to just close it down. Obviously, we have to do something. We can't not do anything. I would recommend to the BOS that we postpone it until December 5th. If I might add, by trying to get the free cash number and the \$1.3 million from LNR (they are going to give us a commitment letter) the letter would be legally binding. The DOR will allow us to use that as

C. NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

1. Postpone Special Town Meeting

as a non-occurring revenue for this fiscal year. You would also have the option of the free cash. What we are going to do is build the warrant so that you would also have the ability to make reductions. Really the Town Meeting would have three options (1) free cash (2) LNR money or (3) make reductions. I understand what Mrs. Parsons is saying. It's a little bit of a crap shoot. I feel fairly confident that the LNR thing will be straightened out very shortly. What I'm not sure about is the free cash situation because we are dealing with outside forces (auditor & DOR) that we don't have any control over. Therefore you are correct, it could pose a problem. The problem is if we can't hit that December 5th date, now you are getting into the holiday season and we could be in trouble. We may find that we might have to push it into January. Keep in mind that the longer we push it we are spending at that level (everyone is supposed to be at a 1/12 budget) but we are spending it so it makes it harder if we have to make reductions. The cuts would have more of an impact. That's the only danger with the further we push it out. Mr. Valanzola – That's the problem I have with even going up to December 5th. If the LNR money doesn't come or the DOR doesn't allow us to use it for this year's budget that \$700,000 becomes more like \$1.4 million basically cutting in half the time you have to cut it. Mr. Plante – As you all know, the Town of Weymouth already has their commitment letter. They have been in touch with DOR and DOR told them the same thing they told me. Weymouth is way ahead of us. Why we don't have our letter yet, I don't know. Mrs. Parsons – Do they have the money yet? Mr. Plante – No....all DOR needs is a commitment letter that is legally binding and they will allow you to use it as a revenue (an income revenue). The money is not in hand. In our meeting with Mr. Ryan, he indicated that he believed the money should be physically in hand by the end of the calendar year. Obviously, LNR is going to write it off. That is what he was anticipating. I don't think it was a promise but it made sense. I leave it up to the BOS. Mrs. O'Brien-McKinnon – I tend to agree. I understand both sides and I think if we aim for December 5th hopefully LNR's letter should be here. Mr. Plante – If I don't receive the letter this week, rest assured they will be receiving a very unpleasant phone call from me. Mrs. O'Brien-McKinnon – December 5th isn't that far away when you think of all the time to put everything together. It stalls us a little bit but at least we know it's there and like you said once we get there we can always postpone. Mr. Plante – What I will need from the BOS tonight is not only to postpone the date but to open the warrant for another 30 days. Mrs. Parsons – My other question is: has Eric Hart (Town Accountant) got in touch with the auditors to come in? Mr. Plante – I will have to check on that. Mr. Valanzola – He felt confident that he could have something by the end of November certified and the auditors would be coming in to do all that before then. He probably should just schedule something with the auditors. Mr. Plante will speak to him about that. Mr. Valanzola - With regard to the 1/12 spending, I made the comment before, as long as the budget is as it is we'll be ok. But we have seen some overspending and if this money doesn't come to fruition we are going to have to make these cuts and they are going to be magnified because we are going to be half way into the year.

C. NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

1. Postpone Special Town Meeting

I think we still need to show some fiscal discipline and restraint until we really know where we are at. Let's not count on this money. Mr. Plante – I would highly recommend to all the departments not to make any major purchases out of their budget line items until this is straightened out. Mrs. Parsons – They need to understand that it's not coming from someone else's budget either. What about the health insurance? Mr. Plante – That is how we got the number down to \$680 it was around \$1.2. We over funded in health insurance, we got extra money in Chapter 70 and there were a couple of other things that Eric came up with and that's how we got it down to \$680. You were given a spreadsheet on that last week. Mrs. Parsons – We were told back in April that we were under funding the health insurance. We go through this every single year, all of a sudden there is a couple hundred thousand in the health insurance account. Mr. Plante – It's a guessing game, you just don't know. Mr. Valanzola – Once she knows what the new rates are, other than the transition of employees coming and going, you should have a pretty good idea what it's going to be for the year. Mr. Plante – I get the numbers from Karen Sepeck and she gets them from Plymouth County. Mrs. Parsons – But come July 1st you can go by the previous numbers and figure out what it is increasing. Instead of every single year we hear from the Finance Committee that it's going up 15% and we've heard that every single year. Mr. Chaffee – The danger would be that if you don't anticipate the percentage increases that you have and then you get into the next fiscal year, you are going to find yourself with a shortfall. We are actually better off doing it the way we are. Mrs. Parsons – It's a matter of over anticipating, there is always a couple of hundred thousand in that account. Mr. Chaffee – That is because they are anticipating a higher increase and that is probably the right thing to do. If you don't anticipate it and you find yourself hit with that increase.....Mrs. Parsons – It's over anticipating. Mr. Plante – It's similar to when we try to estimate our revenues for the next year ... the rule of thumb is that you want to estimate around 92-93% to keep yourself safe and what happened this past year was that the Finance Committee upped those percentages considerably so what happened was that the revenues are coming in at just about what that number is. There is no fudge in there. So I don't know where we are going to be with free cash. We are certainly not going to be anywhere near the \$1.7 that we had last year. John Llewellyn – I want to ask that you do set the Town Meeting date of December 5th because as Lou pointed out we are kind of going month to month here with the concern that if there is a cut how many people are we talking about. As you know, any cuts are going to be people. It's really important to us and I did go to the Finance Committee on Wednesday and Eric said that he hoped his figures would be done sometime towards the end of October. That would give the auditors three weeks or so then we'll have the audit done by the end of November. Thereby allowing us to have the free cash done before December 5th. It's really important for us as a department to have that number to come before you and the Townspeople and find out: (1) are we going to cut? or (2) are we not going to cut?

C. NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

1. Postpone Special Town Meeting

Month to month we are concerned about our staffing levels because it's people. Mrs. Parsons – What I'm trying to get is that we have money to go to Town Meeting with. We are not going to Town Meeting making cuts that we have the money to go to Town Meeting and put it where it needs to be put. Mr. Llewellyn – But the point that Lou brought up I think is critically important that if we go beyond December 5th we are probably going to be in late January and now instead of losing two people we are going to lose four because we've doubled the hit on the department. I'm always the optimist here, Eric did suggest that he would have the free cash number available. The Assessor was there and hopefully will have something from the overlay reserve account and if we have the LNR money. We are all hoping that there aren't going to be any cuts – in fact that would be the cushion for this year. Maybe it's our cushion for next year and hopefully by the third year we are in better shape. We all know we are in this position because we got cut so bad from our local aide years ago. We haven't been able to build that back up so we're struggling year to year to year. I just ask that we do put it on for December 5th because once we get into January we are in big trouble. Mrs. Parsons – You know that the audit has to be done and sent into DOR and you have to wait for that number to come back. Mr. Llewellyn - I understand that. At the Finance Committee meeting the other night Eric was reasonably confident that he would have the auditors in by the beginning of November (three weeks for them to do their work) then hopefully we'll have that number. As he pointed out (it took a little pressure from the Chairman of the Finance Committee) that it would be a really good job for the Town of Rockland to have our free cash certified by November. That would be the first time we've had it by then. Mr. Plante – There is one thing that just dawned on me though....we have to have our tax rate set by December 30th and you can't set your tax rate unless you have a balanced budget. You have to have it balanced so January is not an option.

Motion: Mr. Chaffee to postpone the original Special Town Meeting

Second: Mrs. Parsons

Vote: 5-0

**Motion: Mr. Chaffee to set December 5th as the new date for the
Special Town Meeting**

Second: Mrs. O'Brien-McKinnon

Vote: 5-0

Motion: Mr. Chaffee to reopen the warrant for one month (October 21st)

Second: Mr. Pratt

Vote: 5-0

Mrs. Parsons – Reminder: This is for emergencies only. The article has to be an emergency.

C. NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

2. Tootsie Roll Drive – K of C

The Rockland Knights of Columbus respectfully request BOS permission to once again conduct their annual K of C Tootsie Roll Drive. The drive will be held on Columbus Day weekend (October 7, 8 & 9th) at various locations around town.

Motion: Mr. Pratt to approve as requested

Second: Mr. Chaffee

Vote: 5-0

3. Approve Inter-Municipal Agreement

Mr. Plante: The Annual Town Meeting voted to authorize this last May (Article #34).

Motion: Mr. Pratt to approve

Second: Mrs. O'Brien-McKinnon

Vote: 5-0

4. Street Name Proposal – John Kennedy (Jennifer Lane)

Mr. Valanzola read letter from ZBA Chairman Robert Manzella stating that Condition #17 states that Jennifer Lane is to remain private and maintained by the Homeowners Association. The only requirement is for the applicant to request an approval from the Police Department to make sure that there is no conflict with the E-911 system. The BOS would only vote/approve of street names if that street would eventually become a public way. This project would not meet the Rockland Planning Board's requirements for a public way due to the fact that this was a 40B project and the developer can circumvent Subdivision Rules and Regulations. Mr. Valanzola read Condition #17.

Motion: Mrs. Parson to take no action on Jennifer Lane

Second: Mr. Pratt

Vote: 5-0

5. Application for Common Victualler – Tonias Deli

Steve'n Minsidis spoke on behalf of Tonias Deli at 246 East Water Street in Rockland. We put a couple of tables in the deli and didn't realize we needed a license for it. Someone told us we should get one so that is why we are here. Mr. Plante explained that originally Tonias Deli was strictly take-out. There was no eating on the property. That is the difference between having to have a Common Victualler license. Mrs. Stewart called them and explained that they needed a Common Victualler license.

C. NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

5. Application for Common Victualler – Tonia's Deli

Motion: Mr. Chaffee to approve
Second: Mrs. O'Brien-McKinnon
Vote: 5-0

6. Change of Name: Common Victualler & Inn Holder for Best Western

Motion: Mr. Pratt to approve Best Western – Rockland
Second: Mrs. Parsons
Vote: 5-0

7. Authorize Chairman to sign – Regulatory Agreement (Rockland Glen)

Attorney (name unintelligible) representing Rockland Glenn project spoke regarding this project. This needs your signature ahead of time. It used to be that Mass Housing would sign first but now it's the Selectmen who sign first. Mr. Chaffee – Is this the kind of thing we want to send to Town Counsel? Mr. Plante - Town Counsel has already seen it. Attorney Goldrosen has already reviewed the agreement and has already authorized/recommended that it be signed. Mrs. Parsons – Are there any ZBA conditions on this? Attorney – No there isn't there is one issue before the Conservation and that is it. This is the last piece that we have to give them and we can't get a building permit before this is signed. Chief Sammon – I want to double check...the weight restriction on that bridge that it will be able to take the weight of our ladder truck. Attorney – I will have someone call you on that tomorrow. Andy Triantaffellow – We (Conservation Commission) met with this gentleman last week and there is nothing that we see wrong right now.

Motion: Mr. Chaffee to authorize with the stipulation that the bridge on the property will support the fire truck
Second: Mrs. O'Brien-McKinnon
Vote: 5-0

D. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Reported on the fire and library roofs. The consultants estimates both came in well under \$5,000.00 for each individual one. I did request from her that when she prices out the library dome she prices the copper and the "look alike material" price also.

Mary Stewart attend an ABCC briefing today that was sponsored by the SERSG Group and as they tend to do the State has come up with new requirements (more unfunded mandates). Before any Section 12 liquor licenses are renewed or approved the facility must be inspected and signed off by the Building Inspector and Fire Department. They just found out about this themselves last Thursday. Which is kind of surprising and here we are soon to be into that cycle and they are not giving us a lot of notice. We spoke to

D. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT (Continued)

the Building Inspector this afternoon and he was concerned as everyone has to be signed off by the end of November. Mrs. O'Brien-McKinnon – Are we going to increase the fees of liquor licenses? Mr. Plante – That is a good question. As you know, Mary has done a survey and she really wasn't prepared to do that this year because of the administrative burden it would require her to do. She was going to ask you to do it for 2006 renewals. This is more work for the Building Department, Fire Department and our office which you know is understaffed. I know the Finance Committee wouldn't go for that extra person. I think next year you will need to take a real hard look at that. Again, it's another example of the bureaucracy and the State putting unfunded mandate on us and expecting us to suck it up.

Representative Robert Nyman is holding office hours on Thursday at 3:00 PM if anyone would like to have a word with him.

Bob Gregory is an engineer with Mass Highway District 5 and he is going to meet with myself and Lt. Ashton regarding the Walgreen light and the situation there. Any board members who would like to participate please let me know. The meeting will be in Taunton.

E. CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Valanzola read the following correspondence:

Resignation letter from Youth Commission effective September 1, 2005 from Beth Querzoli.

Motion: Mr. Chaffee to accept resignation with regret

Second: Mr. Pratt

Vote: 5-0

Letter from Kathryn Green thanking the Fire Department (specifically Charlie Williams and Steve King and rescue department) for providing medical treatment in a compassionate manner when her husband John experienced a medical emergency at their house.

Notice from BOH regarding the EEE Virus. Basically telling everyone to be careful and limit your time outside during peak hours. If you have to be out use a lot of mosquito repellant.

F. OPEN FORUM

Mr. Chaffee – As many of you know Hingham Street is well ahead of schedule. This project may be done much faster than we expected. This is good news because tying up Hingham Street for any length of time is bad news for the Town.

F. OPEN FORUM (Continued)

Mrs. Parsons – Question for Mr. Corvi: Is Weymouth Street completely paved? Mr. Corvi – One side is. Let me know when Hingham Street is done.

Mr. Pratt – They are doing a great job on Hingham Street. I would recommend that the Police keep an eye on it as it is somewhat paved and there seems to be a little bit more speed on the street than there was when there were pot holes. You're damned if you do and damned if you don't, you're either going to get complaints regarding pot holes or speeding. If you are going down that road the speed limit is 35. October 1st is Rockland Youth Soccer's 30th anniversary. They will have a parade down Union Street. It will start at the Rockland Plaza and head to the stadium for some 3-on-3 games and some fun and activities for all the kids. Keep that in mind and come on down and have some fun with us.

Mrs. O'Brien-McKinnon – I had spoken to Brad and the Fire Chief about Estes. We still do not have the legal papers from our attorney giving us the right to take the vehicles and put the fencing up yet. Also I have a question for Mr. Plante. The money that was appointed for the library boiler...has anyone approached you about putting that in yet? Mr. Plante – No. Mrs. O'Brien-McKinnon – That has to be done shortly correct? Mr. Plante – The difficulty is the longer we wait getting into the cold season, the harder it's going to be to get a contractor to do the job. If we had done it in July or August most of them are looking for work.

Mr. Valanzola – I want to thank everyone who came out Saturday for George Cobbett's pancake breakfast. The proceeds from this were going to the Fire Department. It was a good turnout for a lousy weather morning. I know there has been some talk about lay-offs and concerns but at this point we haven't done anything yet. We try to prevent anyone from being laid off. Hopefully we will get to Town Meeting and have some money available. We try to prevent anyone from being laid off.

Chief Sammon – The response to the donation for clothes for Hurricane Katrina has been excellent. As of this time, we no longer need any more at the Fire Station. The Red Cross is delayed in picking them up and we have an abundance of clothes and shoes. It's been an overwhelming response. The second thing I have is that October 15th is the Open House at the Fire Department we will be having demonstrations. The hours will be from 10:00AM to 2:00PM and we will be having pizza.

Mr. Corvi – Hingham Street is about three days ahead of schedule because they gave us two grinders. We ground it in two days and we were figuring on four days. They won't be back out there until Wednesday. It will be three days to raise the structures then (Mary I'm sorry to say) you are going to have two lousy days of traffic. We are going to end up a week ahead of schedule. One department I would really like to thank is the Rockland Police Department. They gave me Barry Ashton who handled all the detours. This is the first time we had a job in this Town where we worked like this. We tried it out and it works super. Barry was in charge of the detail officers and I took care of the road. I want to thank Chief Donovan for that.

F. OPEN FORUM (Continued)

Andy Triantaffelow (80 Lincoln Road) – I do want to say a few little things. Blue Cross/Blue Shield gave us money. Beverly Borges the Director of COA thanked Larry, the Town Administrator two months ago...last month nothing...this month... nothing. I'm waiting for the Ledger or Enterprise to put a cartoon in of four seniors pushing the van up the street. The van is now leaking fumes into the cap...you've got to start doing something. Give us a date. Don't tell us they are making it special because there is a whole bunch of them out there. Larry, I know you worked hard on it but there's got to be a date we can get that van. Mr. Chaffee – I went down to see Beverly last Friday. She told me the lift part of it was being made special and that is the difficult part of that van. She thought that it would take a week. Mr. Valanzola – Can we push someone to see if we can get a date? If not could we rent something in the meantime? Mr. Plante – I'll talk to Bev tomorrow and see what the problem is. Andy – There are all kinds of companies out there that already have these vans put together. The lift That's a lot of crap. Mrs. Parsons – I thought you were supposed to go and check this out and bring some people with you. Andy – Nobody said anything to me about that Mary. Mrs. Parsons – I did. (Laughter) Andy – I am not part of the COA. I speak on their behalf, I don't know if they like that or not? (Laughter) I still do it. Mr. Chaffee – We were expecting it on August 1st. One more thing..... I just want to say that Bob Corvi is doing a marvelous job. I care less about what the Rockland News is saying about the Highway Department. I know they are doing a good job. Everyone else in Town knows they are doing a good job. Mr. Corvi – Thank you 80 Lincoln Road. Andy - Now can I get that pot hole fixed? (Laughter) Mrs. Parsons – No, No, No, Union Street first. Mr. Valanzola – They did a great job on Payson Ave. Andy – I know that and they took care of your driveway too. (Laughter)

Mr. Pratt – I want to thank the employees from Serono Lab and Blue Cross/Blue Shield they all got together and came down and repainted and did maintenance around some of our school buildings (Esten, Jefferson & Memorial Park). Any parents going in there are going to notice nicer cleaner buildings. Wonderful paint jobs that these people came in and donated their time for. It was a nice thing for them to do and I really want to thank the people from Serono Laboratories and Blue Cross/Blue Shield for their work. They didn't have to do it but they did it. Mr. Valanzola – That's good. Thank you for remembering that.

Mr. Plante – I had one thing and I wasn't going to say it but after Andy I have to. We received an anonymous check in the mail today. A donation of \$250 that was addressed to the Selectmen that they want this to go to the Highway Department. Mrs. Parsons – Are you sure it's not from 80 Lincoln Road? (Laughter) Mr. Plante – The handwriting seems very neat...I'm assuming the writer is female. I will speak to Eric tomorrow to see how we can get the money to the Highway Department. It occurred to me that we could put it toward "Pot Holes" and start a program like "adopt a pot hole". Mr. Corvi – We don't have enough people in Town. (Laughter)

Motion: Mrs. Parsons to adjourn at 8:37 PM to Executive Session for the purposes of Collective Bargaining and Litigation and not to reconvene.
Second: Mrs. Chaffee
Vote: 5-0 Mr. Chaffee-yes, Mrs. Parsons-yes, Mr. Pratt – yes, Mrs. O’Brien-McKinnon-yes and Mr. Valanzola-yes

LAWRENCE J. CHAFFEE
VICE-CHAIRMAN

BRADLEY A. PLANTE
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR